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Various species that grow commonly near the summit of Mt. Mariveles also occur on the upper slopes of Mt. Santo Tomas, some three thousand or four thousand feet higher, their habits being regulated, evidently, by the more or less similar conditions of moisture, rather than by elevation.

Perhaps the most widely distributed species collected is a *Fissidens*, about equalling *grandifrons* in size. It is common at not much above sea level, but always sterile, while from four thousand to seven thousand five hundred feet elevation, fruiting specimens are abundant.

Manila, P. I., January 20, 1905.

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**BRYUM FOSTERI, n. sp.**

*Bryum Baileyi* is not tenable (See *BRYOLOGIST*, 8: May, 1905). Dr. Brotherus having given this name to an Australian moss. Therefore, I propose *Bryum Fosteri* for the Washington moss: Synonym *Bryum Baileyi* Holz. non Broth.

JOHN M. HOLZINGER.

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**THE BOTANICAL CONGRESS AT VIENNA.**

ELIZABETH G. BRITTON.

It has become a settled custom to hold an International Botanical Congress once in five years. There have been held one at Genoa, one at Paris, and the last at Vienna, from the eleventh to the eighteenth of June, at which there was an attendance of about six hundred persons, of which about four hundred were professional botanists, and nearly two hundred whose names are familiar in botanical literature. The opening exercises were held in the great hall of the university, and the morning sessions were devoted to the reading of papers, illustrated by lantern slides, and to the sessions of various societies, including the International Society of Botanists. The afternoon sessions were held at the Botanical Garden, beginning at three and ending at seven or later. They were devoted to questions of nomenclature and the discussions were based on the "*Synoptical Text*," prepared by Mr. John Briquet, who with infinite patience had brought together and coördinated the diverse views which have so confused the question of plant names. His linguistic facility won the admiration of all.

The report was presented in the name of the International Nomenclature Commission, appointed in Paris in 1900, which was printed in a quarto volume of one hundred and fifty-nine pages and contains the laws of 1867, with subsequent additions and recommendations of the International Nomenclature Commission. The official language of the session was French. M. Flahault, of Montpellier, acted as president, with two vice-presidents, Mr. Rendle, of London, and Carl Mez, and three secretaries, English, French and German. There were twenty-six German delegates, seventeen Austrian, fourteen American, eight French, eight Swiss, four Russian, three Belgian, two English and two Italian, and one each from Norway, Sweden, Spain, Denmark, Java and Calcutta. But this did not represent the total number of votes cast because a number of the delegates

represented several societies and institutions, and some were reported to have as many as eleven and twelve votes each, and three to seven votes was not unusual. However, the proportions remained about the same and the preponderance of votes rested with the Germans and Austrians.

The first session was devoted to preliminaries of organizing, and it was decided to postpone consideration of all questions pertaining to fossil plants and to the mosses and thallophytes until the next Congress, and that they be referred to a special commission to report in 1910 at Brussels. Six meetings were held, all well attended, and the results reached have been characterized "*as conservative but progressive.*" The priority of the specific name was adopted but the oldest generic name met with strong opposition and a list of four hundred exceptions, with the possibility of future additions and corrections, was adopted by vote of 118 to 37. Another surprising decision, that after January, 1908, all descriptions of new species must be accompanied by a short diagnosis in Latin, was adopted by a vote of 125 to 56. Several remarkable things happened during the sessions, one of which was the first attempt to use an evident majority by putting to vote without discussion, the first fifty-two articles of the code. This met with such strong opposition that it was abandoned, and the articles were each voted on separately.

The most sensational feature was the protest by Dr. Otto Kunze against its methods, representation, votes, decisions and recommendations of the commission. This was printed in three languages, and on the fourth day Dr. Kunze appeared in person and was listened to for ten minutes, while he read his protest. When the allotted time expired he was called to order and took his leave. He characterized the methods as dishonest, and stationed men at the door of the offices of the Congress to distribute his circular. It was rather surprising to see how calmly the members accepted his criticisms and how strongly the majority felt as a reaction against his procedure. It was evident, however, that European botanists have not begun to understand the principal of generic types, nor the absurdity of an arbitrary list of exceptions.

The hope has been expressed that the Vienna Code will be followed until something better is accepted, but it seems evident that English botanists are likely to follow the Kew Rule and Kew Index, and that newer American School will not give up a definite set of principles for arbitrary exceptions.  
New York Botanical Garden.

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### LICHENOLOGY FOR BEGINNERS—III.

FREDERICK LE ROY SARGENT.

(Begun in May, 1905, issue.)

Once set free and in the presence of sufficient moisture, air, and warmth, the spores germinate by sending out one or more tubular projections (rudimentary hyphæ) which branch and elongate until the food-supply stored in the spore is exhausted. Then if they do not come in contact with *Algae*,